In the claims:

Please substitute the following full listing of claims for the claims as originally filed or most recently amended. No amendments are presented in claims 1 - 6 and Claims 7 - 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Previously Presented)   A method of coding image data into at least one block of data including a plurality of coefficient values, said method including the steps of

testing said coefficient values for coefficient values requiring more than eight bits to be uniquely coded, and

using a flag in said at least one block of data to indicate if all said coefficient values in said block are coded in eight bits or fewer or if any coefficient value requires more than eight bits to be uniquely coded.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said coefficient values are DCT coefficients.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein said DCT coefficients are AC DCT coefficients.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said testing step is performed once per image.

5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said testing step is performed once per block.

6. (Previously Presented)   A method as recited in claim 1 including the further step of using another flag in a block of data to indicate if any ZRLs are present.

Claims 7 - 10 (Canceled)